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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 HA-05 ACDA-12
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /128 W
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O 060445Z MAY 78 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1184
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 4009
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
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TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, AO
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS TO CONSIDER SOUTH
AFRICAN ATTACK ON ANGOLA

1. IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OF MAY 5, THE ANGOLAN GOVERN-
MENT FORMALLY REQUESTED AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK ON

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ANGOLA. THE ANGOLAN REQUEST WAS QUICKLY SUPPORTED BY THE AFRICAN GROUP, AND AT 1930 HOURS THE SECURITY COUNCIL MET FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AND ACCEDED TO THE REQUEST WITHOUT DISCUSSION. DURING THE CONSULTATIONS IT WAS AGREED THAT THE FIRST FORMAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL WOULD BEGIN AT 2030 HOURS MAY 5 AND THAT A FURTHER MEETING WOULD BE HELD THE NEXT MORNING. AFTER SOME PROCEDURAL DISCUSSIONS, A WORKING PAPER CONSISTING OF A POSSIBLE DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS DISTRIBUTED TO THE COUNCIL MEMBERS. IT WAS AGREED THAT INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE SUB-STANCE OF THE WORKING PAPER WOULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY SO AS TO ALLOW THE FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AMBASSADOR RAMPHUL (MAURITIUS), THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKING PAPER'S CO-SPONSORS, STRESSED THEIR DESIRE TO INTRODUCE A DRAFT RESOLUTION THAT EVENING SO THAT A VOTE COULD BE TAKEN THE NEXT DAY (MAY 6).

2. THE THREE-PAGE WORKING PAPER (DATAFAXED TO IO, ATT: HELMAN) WAS CO-SPONSORED BY THE AFRICAN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL PLUS BOLIVIA, INDIA, KUWAIT, AND VENEZUELA. IT IS A DOCUMENT CLEARLY DRAFTED IN HOPES OF GAINING A CONSENSUS. IN A PREAMBULAS PARAGRAPH, IT DENOMINATES THE EVENT AS AN "ACT OF AGGRESSION". IN ITS MOST SIGNIFICANT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS IT: (A) CONDEMNS THE LATEST ARMED INVASION, WHICH IT DENOMI-
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NATES AS "AGGRESSION"; (B) DEMANDS THE "IMMEDIATE" AND UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF ALL SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES FROM ANGOLA; (C) DEMANDS THAT SOUTH AFRICA PUT AN IMMEDIATE END TO ITS ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA; AND (D) "DECIDES TO MEET AGAIN IN THE EVENT OF FURTHER ACTS OF VIOLATION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TER-RITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN RACIST REGIME IN ORDER TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF MORE EFFECTIVE MEASURES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROPRIATE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING CHAPTER 7 (VII) THEREOF".

3. THIS REFERENCE TO CHAPTER VII IS, ALONG WITH THE "AGGRESSION" LANGUAGE, THE ASPECT OF THE WORKING DRAFT WHICH WE FIND SIGNIFICANTLY PROBLEMATIC, AND IN A MEETING OF THE WESTERN FIVE FOLLOWING THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, IT WAS AGREED THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIVE (FRG AMBASSADOR VON WECHMAR) SHOULD EXPLAIN TO AMBASSADOR RAMPHUL OUR DIFFICULTY WITH THAT REFERENCE AND PROPOSE THE DELETION OF THE WORDS "INCLUDING CHAPTER 7 (VII) THEREOF". THE FIVE ALSO AGREED THAT THE FOLLOWING

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OTHER CHANGES SHOULD BE SUGGESTED: (A) THE REPLACEMENT OF REFERENCES TO "ACTS OF AGGRESSION" WITH "ARMED INVASION"; (B) THE DELETION OF THE WORD "IMMEDIATE" IN THE CONTEXT OF THE END TO SOUTH AFRICAN OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA (THE BRITISH THOUGHT THAT THIS COULD BE SEEN TO BE A CONTRADICTION OF THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL ON NAMIBIA); AND (C) THE REPLACEMENT FOF THE WORDS "SOUTH AFRICAN RACIST REGIME" WITH "SOUTH AFRICA".

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, RAMPHUL INFORMED VON WECHMAR THAT CO-SPONSORS COULD ACCEPT REPLACEMENT OF REFERENCES TO "AGGRESSION" BY "ARMED INVASION" AND REPLACEMENT OF "IMMEDIATE" BY "WITHOUT ANY DELAY". RAMPHUL EXPRESSLY INDICATED INABILITY OF CO-SPONSORS TO ACCEPT ANY OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 HA-05 ACDA-12
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 4010
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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OTHER SUGGESTIONS.
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5. IN A BRIEF MEETING OF THE FIVE ON TEXT CHANGED IN THIS MANNER, UK AND FRANCE INDICATED RECOGNITION OF CHANGES THAT HAD BEEN MADE AND SAID THEY WOULD GO BACK TO CAPITALS FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON TEXT AS CHANGED.

6. SINCE THE LANGUAGE OF THE PASSAGE INCLUDING THE REFERENCE TO CHAPTER 7 IS COUCHED ONLY IN TERMS OF A CALL FOR THE COUNCIL TO MEET AGAIN AND "CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF MORE EFFECTIVE MEASURES", THUS NOT COMMITING THE MEMBERS TO CHAPTER 7 ACTION, WE BELIEVE WE CAN LIVE WITH THE TEXT AS DRAFTED. FRG AND CANADA ALSO WILL PROBABLY ACCEPT IT. UK AND FRANCE AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS (ABOVE).

7. THE COUNCIL MET FORMALLY AT 9:00 PM TO HEAR A STATEMENT OF COMPLAINT BY ANGOLA, SUPPORTING STATEMENTS BY SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA, ZAMBIAN PERM REP ON BEHALF OF THE UN AFRICAN GROUP, AND TANZANIA, AND A STATEMENT BY MAURITIUS FORMALLY INTRODUCING THE DRAFT RESOLUTION AS AMENDED THROUGH CONSULTATIONS. THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 10:50 PM, SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE AT 11:00 AM, SATURDAY, MAY 6, TO COMPLETE THE DEBATE AND VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION AT SOME POINT DURING THE DAY. SUMMARIES OF TODAY'S STATEMENTS WILL BE TRANS-MITTED SEPTEL. LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, AGREEMENT DRAFT, MEETINGS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01828
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2768752
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS TO CONSIDER SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK ON ANGOLA
TAGS: PORG, MOPS, SF, AO, UNSC
To: CAPE TOWN STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/17f7b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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